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ABSTRACT

This discussion guide was developed for use in conjunction with the "Caring for Animals" videotape. It includes information for teachers to use in facilitating class discussions about animal care and well-being. The guide covers the following: (1) goals and objectives; (2) animal well-being; (3) animal health; (4) care for animals; (5) quality assurance and the livestock industry; (6) treatment record factors; (7) proper injection of animal drugs; (8) medication labels and inserts; and (9) show ring ethics. The policy statement and code of practices of the Ohio Farm Animal Care Commission are included in the guide. (KC)

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Caring for Animals

Animal Well-being, Quality Assurance, Show Ring Ethics

Discussion Guide

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Goals and Objectives

- Increase the awareness of the issues of animal well-being, quality assurance, and show animal ethics.
- Encourage you, the 4-H or FFA member, to reflect on your values concerning these issues.

Privileges, Responsibilities, and Rewards

Everyone associated with livestock, either on the farm or in the show ring, is responsible for the well-being of their animals. As a 4-H and/or FFA member, you need to learn to care properly for your projects and develop acceptable livestock husbandry skills.

Your duty as a 4-H and/or FFA member is to properly care for your animals. As a 4-H or FFA animal owner, you need to understand the privileges, responsibilities, and rewards that you can expect from the 4-H or FFA program.

Privileges

- to know as much about your project as possible
- to receive information to raise the project
- to be given a variety of experiences relating to project work
- to be given sound guidance and direction
- to ask questions and share concerns
- to be recognized

Responsibilities

- to humanely treat all livestock projects in your possession
- to be sincere and believe in the value of a job well done
- to be loyal to the values and ideals of the 4-H or FFA program
- to accept the guidance and decisions of the program coordinators
- to be willing to learn and participate in training programs and meetings
- to continue learning throughout your years of 4-H or FFA membership.
- to follow good practices insuring a safe, wholesome product of the highest quality

Rewards

- to enjoy satisfaction from a job well done
- to receive both public and personal recognition
- to learn new skills, receive special training, and experience personal growth
- to make new friends and have fun
- to feel good about producing a wholesome, consumable product
- to know you are special and you can make a difference

This discussion guide is for use in conjuntion with the *Caring for Animals - Video.*

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Caring for Animals - Discussion Guide
originally published and distributed by Ohio State University Extension

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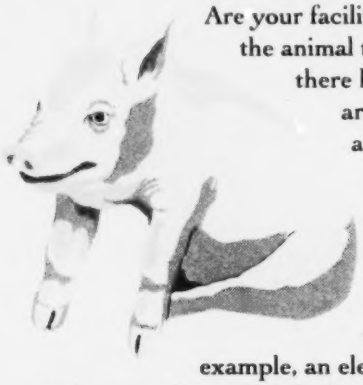
Animal Well-being

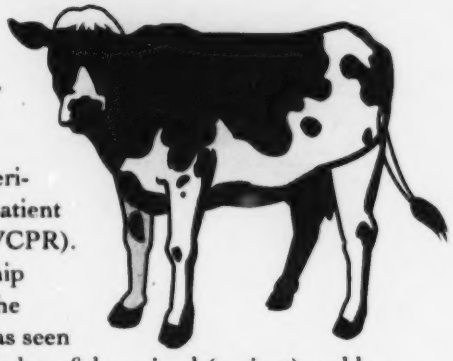
As a 4-H or FFA member, you need to be aware of the things you can do with your own animal to promote animal well-being. The image of the agricultural industry and the 4-H and FFA programs are affected by the decisions you make and actions you take in the care of your animal. You need to set goals and develop a plan that will positively impact your animal's well-being; either on the farm, in your backyard, or at the county fair.

You can complete some tasks before you even obtain your animal. First, think about the size your animal will be as it grows to maturity. Are your facilities large enough for the animal to exercise in? Are there hazards where you are going to keep your animal such as protruding nails, broken boards, or exposed wire? Can the animal reach any potentially dangerous objects? (For example, an electrical box or a poisonous plant.) Think about the type of bedding you will be using and the quantity it will take to keep your animal dry and warm. You should have an ample supply of clean water available to your animals at all times. A designated feeding area should be kept free of manure, urine, and bedding.



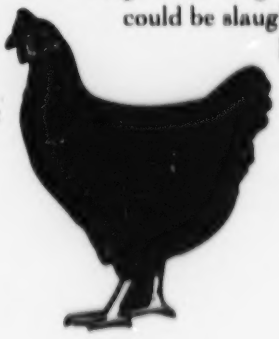
Once your animal arrives and is in your care, providing it with a balanced ration is an important first step. Many processed feeds, supplements, and pre-mixes are available. Be sure your animal is receiving the nutrition it needs in relation to its age, growth cycle, and purpose. Your animal also needs special consideration if it is in gestation, in lactation, or at stud.

Animal Health



When questions or concerns arise, involve your veterinarian. Develop a veterinarian client-patient relationship (VCPR). This relationship requires that the veterinarian has seen and has knowledge of the animal (patient) and has discussed a health plan or any treatments with the owner (client). Your veterinarian can be very helpful in developing a health care program for your animal. Your plan should include an appropriate schedule for vaccinating, castrating, dehorning, tail docking, internal/external parasite control, etc. You should check with your veterinarian before administering treatments, especially if there is any question about the diagnosis and the medication you are planning to use. If injections are necessary, give them in the proper location using good technique. Injection sites in the neck are recommended to avoid possible damage to high-priced meat cuts such as the ham and round. Use subcutaneous (SQ) injections (under the skin) whenever allowed by the label directions.

A withdrawal time may be indicated on the label of certain medications. This is the period of time that must pass between the last treatment and the time the animal may be slaughtered. For example, if a medication with a 14-day withdrawal period was last given on August 1st, the first day the animal could be slaughtered would be August 15th. It is important that you follow withdrawal time directions as given by the label or as prescribed by your veterinarian.

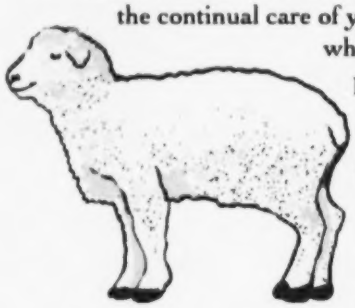


In addition to the withdrawal time, the label of a drug lists the animal species for which the drug is approved, the dosage to be administered, how it is to be given, and for what diseases/conditions it can be used as a treatment. Any use, other than that printed on the label, can only be directed or prescribed by your veterinarian. For example, a neighbor's animal is sick and a veterinarian has treated it using twice the dose listed on the label of an OTC (over-the-counter) product. Your animal becomes ill and is showing the same symptoms as your neighbor's. You may not use the neighbor's double dose for your animal without a veterinarian examining and prescribing the specific treatment. Any deviation from the label directions when using a drug is referred to as extra-label drug use. Unless directed by a veterinarian who has established a VCPR, **extra-label drug use is illegal.**

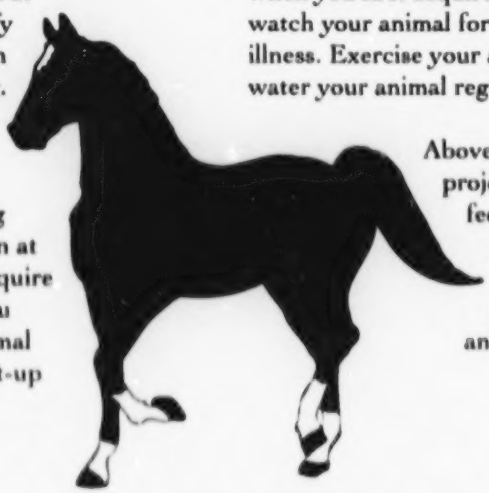
Each animal in your care needs to be permanently identified. Individual animal identification enables good record keeping, from which you can measure your progress. If your animal becomes lost, stolen, or needs medical attention when you are not available, the only way to know the animal's identity and health history is by permanent identification. This is most commonly done by tattooing or ear tagging. Your Junior Fair program may identify all 4-H and FFA animals through county-wide tagging or tattooing. If not, you are responsible for identifying all of your animals.

Training animals and acquainting yourself with them needs to begin at an early age or as soon as you acquire your animal. If at all possible, you should spend time with your animal daily. As you walk, stand, and set-up your animal, you both develop trust and become accustomed to each others' movements. You also become aware of what sounds or sights bother your animal and in which direction it tends to jump or shy away from. Handling your animal daily also helps you to recognize abnormal behavior in your animal that could signal illness, stress, or pain. The longer you avoid working with your animal, the more difficult training and preparation for show becomes. The two P's—practice and patience—usually pay off.

From the day you acquire your animal until the day it leaves your care, you should maintain feed and treatment records. This is important for the continual care of your animal and for whomever might later purchase your animal. This is also the best way to keep track of the kinds and amounts of expenses you have incurred with your project.



Finally, if you plan to exhibit your animal for show or sale, continue the same quality care program throughout the exhibition as you did at home This starts by loading and hauling your animal safely and with concern for its well-being. The exhibition facilities should be prepared and checked ahead of time, just as you prepared your facilities at home when you first acquired your animal. Continually watch your animal for signs of stress, pain, or illness. Exercise your animal daily. Clean, feed, and water your animal regularly.



Above all, enjoy your animal project experience. You should feel good about the knowledge you gain and the quality care program you develop and implement with your animal project.

Care That You Are Giving Your Animals

Check the ways in which you are already caring for your animal. If you want to improve how you care for your animal, check that column too.

Care	I am already doing	I want to improve
Prepare facilities before I get my animal.	❑	❑
Provide adequate housing and bedding.	❑	❑
Control internal and external parasites.	❑	❑
Castrate, dehorn, dock, etc. animals when they are young.	❑	❑
Train animal to be handled at a young age.	❑	❑
Have a planned health program to prevent disease.	❑	❑
Observe animals daily and immediately treat those who need care.	❑	❑
Identify animals. (tag, tattoo, ear notch, etc.)	❑	❑
Keep feed and treatment records.	❑	❑
Be aware of animal comfort at all stages of production.	❑	❑
Use proper techniques for vaccination and treatment.	❑	❑
Observe drug residue avoidance rules.	❑	❑
Observe label directions including withdrawal times.	❑	❑
Sort and load animals safely and with concern for them.	❑	❑

(adapted from Iowa State University Extension VI-1042DJH Oct. 1991)

After deciding in which areas you want to improve, list your specific goals for the year.

Goals _____

_____

Questions

Did you accomplish your goals? _____

What worked well? _____

_____

_____

What would you change? _____

_____

_____

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Quality Assurance and the Livestock Industry

With your livestock project comes new responsibilities. You are now a member of the livestock industry. The livestock industry, just like any industry, provides a product to the consumer. Even producers of breeding stock are providing seed stock for future food and fiber production.

Think back to some time when you bought a toy or other product and were disappointed in it. Would you buy it again? Consumers will choose to buy or not buy a product from their perception of the value of that product. What would happen to a business if no one purchased its products?

Many businesses have quality assurance departments to make sure that their products are of the highest quality. Businesses pay attention to quality assurance because that helps to build consumer satisfaction. When quality is high, consumers will buy again. Livestock products must be safe, wholesome, and produced in a manner that meets consumer approval.

Who is in charge of quality assurance in the livestock industry? When you feed a pig and sell it to the market, who is responsible for assuring that the pork eaten by the consumer is a high-quality product? The retailer? The packer? You? The breeder? **Everyone involved in the livestock industry is obligated to do their part to provide a safe, wholesome product to the consumer.**

Quality assurance in the livestock industry begins with providing the right genetics and continues with the proper husbandry of the live animal, a good packing house, and good retailing. Every action you take as a livestock producer will reflect on the quality of the livestock industry as a whole.

Quality assurance in raising livestock means providing for the animal's needs to produce a healthy, wholesome animal. Basic animal needs include water, food, shelter, and care. Proper attention to animal husbandry helps assure a high-quality, marketable product.

Good animal husbandry requires an understanding of many different sciences, including nutrition, environmental design, genetics, veterinary health, production, and economics. These topics all contribute to a quality livestock product. To learn more, consult your project book, a 4-H advisor, an Extension agent, FFA instructor, a veterinarian, or a livestock production expert.

Evaluating quality assurance of your project is something like looking into a mirror. Reflect on your project for a moment. Do you like what you see? More important, will the consumer like it?

Quality Assurance Factors

Topics Important to Livestock Quality Assurance and the Producer

Nutrition
Essential nutrients, feed and forage analysis, ration balancing

Environmental Design
Space requirements, ventilation, freedom from hazards and injury, feeding systems, handling and loading, feeding facilities, manure handling, image

Genetics
Consumer preferences, producer needs, suitability to livestock production systems

Veterinary Health
Disease prevention, proper drug usage, drug residues and withdrawal times, injection technique, records

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Treatment Record Factors

Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR) is established when a veterinarian, who knows about an animal's health by having seen it or other animals in the same herd, takes charge of the medical decisions about the animal's treatment. The veterinarian has to be available for follow-up, in case the animal does not respond as expected and the caretaker of the animal has to agree to follow the veterinarian's instructions regarding the treatment program.

Withdrawal Time is the time needed to allow the residue to diminish to a safe tolerance level. It is the period which must elapse after the last treatment and before slaughter of meat animals, the use of milk for human consumption from dairy animals, or use of chicken eggs for human consumption.

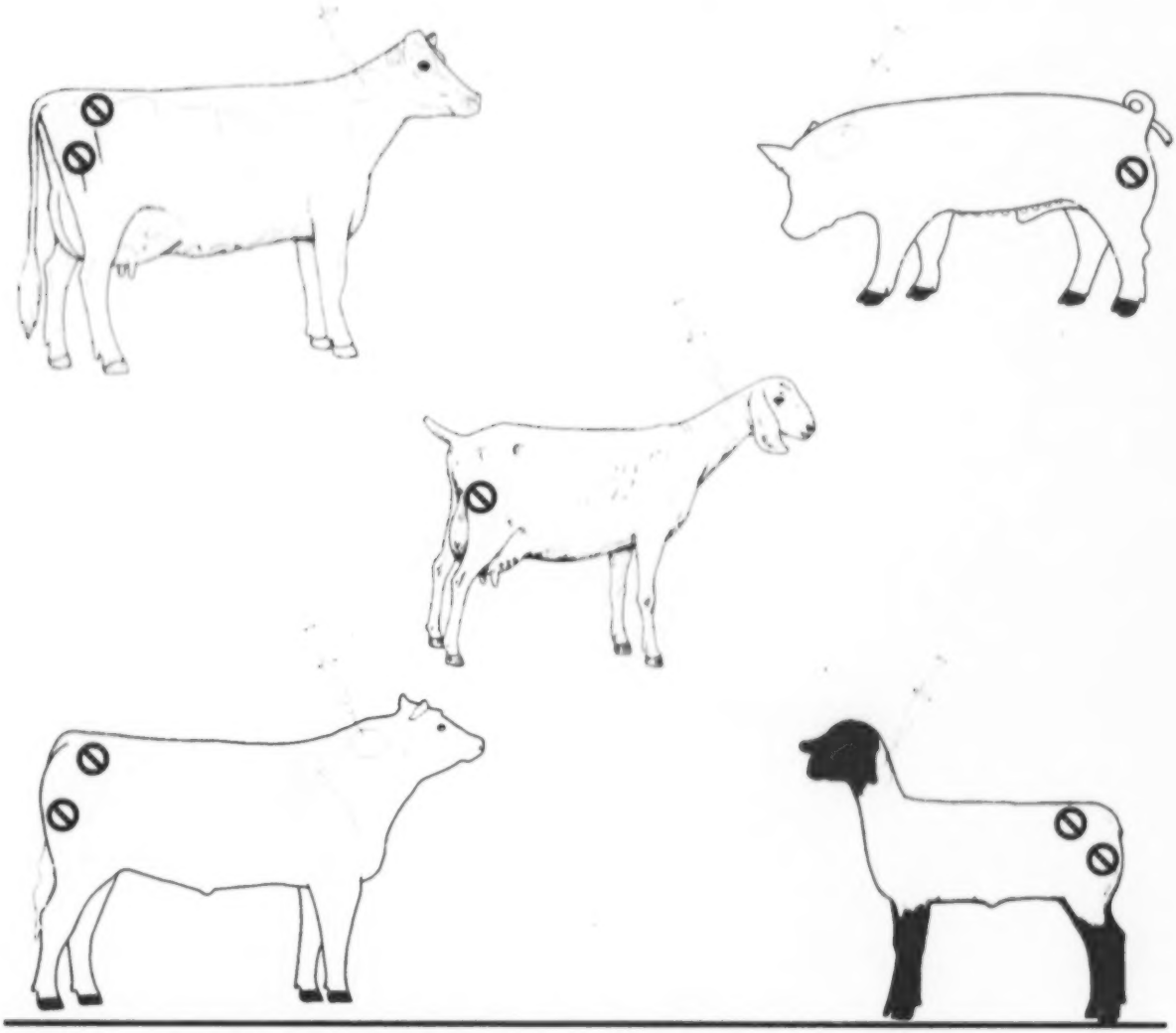
Extra-label drug use is using a medication in a way other than that stated on the label by the manufacturer. For instance, using a medication as a treatment for a disease not listed on the label for that type of animal is extra-label use. Extra-label use, if not: directed by a veterinarian with an established VCPR, is illegal.

Veterinary drugs are available in two categories, **over the counter (OTC)** and **prescription (Rx).** To be an OTC product, the medication must meet certain criteria for safety to both the animal and the person handling the product. If simple directions can adequately be written on the label by the manufacturer, a product can be classed as an OTC. The OTC medications may be sold through retail outlets such as farm supply stores in the same manner as aspirin is sold at a grocery store.

When human and animal safety, proper diagnosis, and special directions are concerns, medications are classed as prescription (Rx) products. A prescription product can be identified because the exact following statement will appear on the container: *Caution: Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.* Just as veterinarians are not allowed to authorize extra-label drug use without a valid VCPR, neither are they permitted to prescribe Rx medications for animals where a valid VCPR has not been established. Rx medications are available only from or on the order of a veterinarian much as prescription drugs for people are only available from physicians and from a pharmacist by prescription.

Suggestions for Proper Injection of Animal Drugs

- Properly restrain the animal before giving an injection.
- Give injections according to label instructions. Route: Subcutaneous (SQ) means under the skin; intramuscular (IM) means in the muscle; intravenous (IV) means into the blood.
- When the label directions permit, give injections under the skin so that the muscle tissue is not injured.
- Use sterilized needles and syringes. Keep the bottle cap clean.
- Give injections at clean, dry sites on the animal.
- Do not transfer needles back and forth from animal to bottle because you may carry bacteria from the animal's skin back into the bottle.



= *YES, correct injection site* ⊘ = *NO, incorrect injection site*

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Medication Label

Name of Drug — ***OMNIBIOTIC***

(hydrocillin) — *Active Ingredients*

Directions for use: See package insert

Cautions and Warnings —

Warning: The use of this drug must be discontinued for 30 days before treated animals are slaughtered for food. Exceeding the highest recommended dosage level may result in antibiotic residues in meat or milk beyond the withdrawal time. — *Withholding Times*

Store between 2° and 8° C (36° and 46° F) — *Storage*

Keep dry and away from light

Quantity of Contents — Net Contents: 100 ml

TAKE TIME

OBSERVE LABEL DIRECTIONS

Distributed by

USA Animal Health, Inc. — *Name of Distributor*

QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ANIMAL CARE

Quality Assurance and Animal Care: Youth Education Program
This material is based upon work supported by Extension Service,
United States Department of Agriculture, under special project number 93-EFSQ-4096.

Product distribution through the Ohio Agricultural Education Curriculum Materials Service

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Medication Insert

Name of Drug

OMNIBIOTIC

Active Ingredients

(Hydrocillin in Aqueous Suspension)

Species and Animal Class

For use in Beef Cattle, Lactating and Non-Lactating Dairy Cattle, Swine and Sheep

Read Entire Brochure Carefully Before Using This Product

For Intramuscular Use Only

Active Ingredients: Omnibiotic is an effective antimicrobial preparation containing hydrocillin hydrochloride. Each ml of this suspension contains 200,000 units of hydrocillin hydrochloride in an aqueous base.

Approved Uses

Indications: Cattle - bronchitis, foot rot, leptospirosis, mastitis, metritis, pneumonia, wound infections. **Swine** - erysipelas, pneumonia. **Sheep** - foot rot, pneumonia, mastitis: and other infections in these species caused by or associated with hydrocillin-susceptible organisms.

Recommended Daily Dosage

The usual dose is 2 ml per 100 lb of body weight given once daily. Maximum dose is 15 ml/day.

Dosage

Body Weight	*Dosage*
100 lb	2 ml
300 lb	6 ml
500 lb	10 ml
750 lb or more	15 ml

Continue treatment for 1 to 2 days after symptoms disappear.

Route of Administration

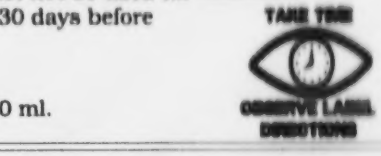
Cautions and Warnings

Caution: 1. Omnibiotic should be injected deep within the fleshy muscle of the neck or thigh. Do not inject this material in the hip or rump, subcutaneously, into a blood vessel, or near a major nerve because it may cause tissue damage. 2. If improvement does not occur within 48 hours, the diagnosis should be reconsidered and appropriate treatment initiated. 3. Treated animals should be closely observed for at least 30 minutes. Should a reaction occur, discontinue treatment and immediately administer epinephrine and antihistamines. 4. Omnibiotic must be stored between 2° and 8° C (36° to 46° F). Warm to room temperature and shake well before using. Keep refrigerated when not in use.

Storage Requirements

Withholding Times

Warning: Milk that has been taken from animals during treatment and for 48 hours (4 milkings) after the last treatment must not be used for food. The use of this drug must be discontinued for 30 days before treated animals are slaughtered for food.



Sizes Available

How Supplied: Omnibiotic is available in vials of 100 ml.

Quality Assurance and Animal Care: Youth Education Program
This material is based upon work supported by Extension Service, United States Department of Agriculture, under special project number 93-EFSQ-4096.

Product distribution through the Ohio Agricultural Education Curriculum Materials Service

Guide to Reading Drug Label on Outside of Container

Active Ingredients: Chemical name(s) of what is in the drug.

Witholding/Withdrawal Times: The time it takes for the drug/chemical to be used up by the animal's body after it has been administered (or the time it takes a drug/chemical to wear off). A residue is a substance that remains in an animal's body tissues after the animal has been exposed to that substance. The substance can enter the animal's body as a feed or water additive, as an injection or external treatment, or simply by accident.*

Cautions and Warnings: Tells things to be cautious about when using the product. Examples: a) Do not give to certain kinds of animals, b) do not give too much, c) pay attention to withholding times (see above).

Storage: You may not obtain the performance you expect from the drugs and chemicals you have if the expiration date has passed, if the storage temperature is too hot or too cold, or if the products have been exposed to air or light.

Quantity of Contents: Tells how much is in the container. Usually in metric units [liquid measure: 1 fluid ounce = 29.6 milliliters (ml); dry measure: 1 pint = 551 milliliters (ml)].

* Remember, you are responsible for everything your animal consumes even if it is an accident.

Caring for Animals

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Guide to Reading Medication (Package) Insert Label

(sometimes found on outer label)

- ***Species and Animal Class:*** The species and animal class in which the drug is to be used.
- ***Approved Uses:*** The situation for which the drug is to be used. Indicates the particular type of animal, condition, illness, etc.
- ***Dosage:*** How much to give and how often/how many times given.
- ***Route of Administration:*** How is the product given to the animal? Basically, there are three routes of administering medications:

  1. Oral Route - Administering drugs through the mouth. Tablets, pills, capsules, and liquid medications are easily administered orally. A drenching tube, balling gun, or oral dosage syringe is usually used to place the liquid or pill at the base of the tongue at the back of the mouth. Make sure the medication goes down the throat and the animal swallows it. Take care the animal is not choked by the medication going down the trachea (windpipe). You can also administer medication in the animal's feed or water.

  2. Topical Route - Applying the medication to the skin or to the mucous membranes of the eyes, ears, nasal passages, or reproductive tract. Such medications are available as ointments, aqueous solutions, powders, and aerosols. Do not allow these products to come in contact with the animal's eyes, nose, [illegible] or mouth unless it is specifically formulated for that use.

  3. Injectable Route - Administering the drug directly into an animal's body with a syringe and needle. Injections are the most common method to administer medications. The label will specify which of the following injection methods to use.

  Subcutaneous (SQ) injections are accomplished by inserting the needle just under the skin and *not* into the muscle. This is important because SQ medications are designed for a slower rate of absorption or are highly irritating to muscle tissue.

  Intramuscular (IM) injections are the most commonly used. This is accomplished by inserting the needle straight into the skin and deep into the muscle.

  Intravenous (IV) injections are sometimes used. Some medications are labeled for intravenous injection only, because they are strong irritants to muscle tissue and can cause damage. The IV route of administration provides a rapid means of getting the medication into the system of a sick animal as well as eliminating the chance of tissue damage. IV injections are given directly into the bloodstream.

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Treatment Record

Treatment Date	Animal ID - Name - Species - ID Number - Description	Condition Being Treated	Estimated Weight	Treatment Given (Medication Dosage, Amount, and Route)	Instructed Meat/Milk/Egg Withdrawal	Results	Date Withdrawal Complete	If this is an extra label or Rx drug list the name, address, and phone number of the licensed veterinarian who prescribed or directed the treatment
Oct 10	Mark Steer #328 Red	Shipping fever	500	Naxcel™, 7cc IM	None	Improved	N/A	Dr. Jones (614/481-1000) 364 Smith Ave. Columbus, Oh 43210
Oct 11	Mark Steer #328 Red	Shipping fever (reteat)	500	Naxcel™, 7cc IM	None	Improving	N/A	Dr. Jones
Oct 12	Mark Steer #328 Red	Shipping fever (reteat)	500	Naxcel™, 7cc IM	None	Improving	N/A	Dr. Jones
Mar 3	Kirby Lamb #67 Suffolk	White muscle disease	40	Bo-Se™, 1cc SQ	14 days meat	Walking better	Mar 17	Dr. Copper (419/777-1234) 4682 Hoover Rd Van Wert, Oh 34618
Aug 2 morning milking	K.T. Maggie Holstein #579	Mastitis LF	1300	Cefa-Lak™, 1 tube in LFquarter	96 hours milk	Garget	Aug 2 evening milking	N/A
Aug 15	OFL Joyce Hereford #787	Pinkeye	675	LA-200™, 30cc IM (3 sites)	28 days meat	Cloudy right eye	Sep 12	N/A
Apr 30	Victoria Alpine doe kid LE - J4	Diarrhea	40	Bioso Liquid™, 3cc Orally	60 days meat	Watery diarrhea	May 30	N/A
May 1	Victoria Alpine doe kid LE - J4	Diarrhea	40	Bioso Liquid™, 3cc Orally	60 days meat	Watery diarrhea	May 31	N/A
Apr 9	Oreo Hog #37-6 Hampshire	Swollen hocks	200	Tylan 200™, 2.5cc IM	14 days meat	Unchanged	Apr 23	Dr. Born (513/382-0901) 2278 State Route 73 Wilmington, Oh 45177
Apr 10	Oreo Hog #37-6 Hampshire	Swollen hocks (reteat)	200	Tylan 200™, 2.5cc IM	14 days meat	Improved	Apr 24	Dr. Born
Apr 11	Oreo Hog #37-6 Hampshire	Swollen hocks (reteat)	200	Tylan 200™, 2.5cc IM	14 days meat	Better	Apr 25	Dr. Born
Nov 15	Jess Arabian Mare	Cut on Neck	1000	Procaine Penicillin™, 20cc IM	N/A	Improved	N/A	Dr. Walker (614/481-1000) 364 Smith Ave. Columbus, Oh 43210

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Questions

1. What are spec[illegible] issues that relate to your project?

2. Why is it important that your animal be permanently identified?

3. What is the difference between a prescription and over-the-counter medication?

4. What is extra-label drug usage? When is it allowed?

5. What is a medication withdrawal time? Why is it important?

6. Explain what is meant by a Vet[illegible]ent-Patient Relationship (VCPR).

7. What information should be recorded when an animal is given medication?

8. How do you think the consumer would view the way your project is housed? Fed? Handled?

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Show Ring Ethics

One of the most visible components of 4-H and FFA is livestock shows. Much of the public's contact with 4-H and FFA is at the county fair where show ring events draw large crowds. What the audience sees reflects on the total Junior Fair program and the entire livestock industry. How are you contributing to that image?

The desire to win at any cost has tarnished the record of 4-H and FFA members personally and livestock shows in general. Why have YOU chosen to show an animal? What motivates some to act dishonestly in the show ring?

Competition, if you keep it in perspective, can be a positive tool to help develop important skills in your life. Many 4-H and FFA alumni who showed animals during their youth attribute successes in their careers to the diverse skills gained as a 4-H or FFA member. You use decision-making skills and critical thinking techniques to select your animal and choose a feeding program. Answering the judges' questions in a confident manner helps you gain poise, which is beneficial in many other situations. The ability to be a good sport is a characteristic we all need. Certainly self-esteem is affected in the show ring when people watch and applaud your performance!

Is your only goal to win—or do you want to get more out of it than that? Your ability to think while paying attention to the judge, your animal, and other exhibitors is an important skill. Keeping a level head and staying composed will be good practice for other challenges in your life. Many long lasting friendships are developed from showing animals.

Proper training of your animal for the show ring should only include techniques that offer no risk of injury or pain to the animal. *If a TV camera was present when you were working with your animal, would you do anything differently than you normally do?*

Putting in many long hours of practice with your animal is the only way to achieve that polished, confident look with the animal giving complete response to your commands.

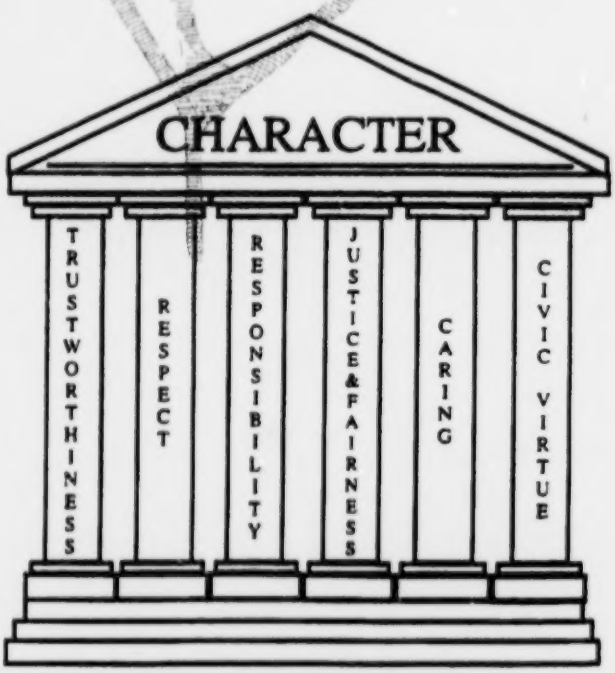
The effects of unethical practices on animals can be harmful or even fatal. If your animal goes to slaughter and residues are found in the tissue, the animal will be rejected. How does this reflect on you and the animal industry?

Even if you do win, your moment in the spotlight with a champion is short lived. Think about what will stay with you after the thrill of winning has worn off. What image of the meat industry did consumers perceive while watching you present your animal?

Using unethical techniques to train, feed, or show your animal is wrong. If you see it happening, don't turn your back. Tell a committee member or show official.

Pillars of Character

- **Trustworthiness**
- **Respect**
- **Responsibility**
- **Justice and Fairness**
- **Caring**
- **Civic Virtue and Citizenship**



Source: Josephson's Institute of Ethics

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Questions

1. List the six pillars of character.

2. List some proper techniques that you can use to prepare your animal for the show ring.

3. a. What have you seen or heard about that you think was an unethical practice in relationship to showing an animal?

   b. Why do you feel that it might have been wrong?

5. List the benefits you have gained from your past show ring experiences.

6. Describe what you feel is appropriate behavior when you win. What behavior is appropriate when you don't place where you had hoped?

7. Can you be a "winner" showing an animal without getting a purple or blue ribbon? What are your reasons?

8. What are some ways to recognize exhibitors for skills gained other than winning in the show ring?

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Source: Ohio Farm Animal Care Commission

Ohio Farm Animal Care Commission

Policy Statement

The Ohio Farm Animal Care Commission was organized in 1990 in the state of Ohio to provide leadership on matters related to farm animal care. The commission has dedicated itself to the promotion of sound animal husbandry practices in the care and efficient production of animals used for food and fiber. The use of proper animal husbandry practices minimizes stress, improves animal efficiency and profitability for the farmer, and insures a safe, healthy, and wholesome product to the consumer at a reasonable price.

The Ohio Farm Animal Care Commission believes animals play a vital part of human existence and therefore, deserve our protection and compassion. Humans have had a inseparable relationship with animals and nature, as people have served as their sole caretakers for centuries. Yet, humanity is answerable to another set of laws and concepts that is uniquely a product of human society. Animals cannot be made subject to the laws that we as human beings are governed by and therefore, do not have the rights of humans.

The Ohio Farm Animal Care Commission firmly believes that all animals use other animals for their existence. Thus, the responsible use of animals by humans is natural and appropriate.

The Ohio Farm Animal Care Commission believes that farmers take pride in their responsibility to provide proper care for their animals and endorse the following Code of Practices.

Code of Practices

The following describes general responsibilities of the farmer and all persons in his or her authority in the proper care and handling of animals raised for food and fiber.

- To provide food, water, and care necessary to protect the health and welfare of my animals.
- To provide a safe and healthy environment for my animals that is clean, well ventilated, and provides ample space.
- To provide a well-planned disease prevention program to protect the health of my herd or flock. This includes a strong veterinarian-client relationship.
- To use humane and sanitary methods when it becomes necessary to dispose of my animals.
- To make timely inspections of all animals to evaluate the health and insure that all basic requirements are being met.
- To insure proper handling techniques are used to eliminate any undue stress or injury when manual manipulation is necessary.
- To provide transportation for my animals that avoids undue stress or injury caused by overcrowding, excessive time in transit, or improper handling when loading or unloading.
- The willful mistreatment of my animals or the mistreatment of any animal will not be tolerated. In cases of mistreatment, I will notify the proper authorities.
- To make management decisions based on scientific fact and to consider the welfare of my animals.

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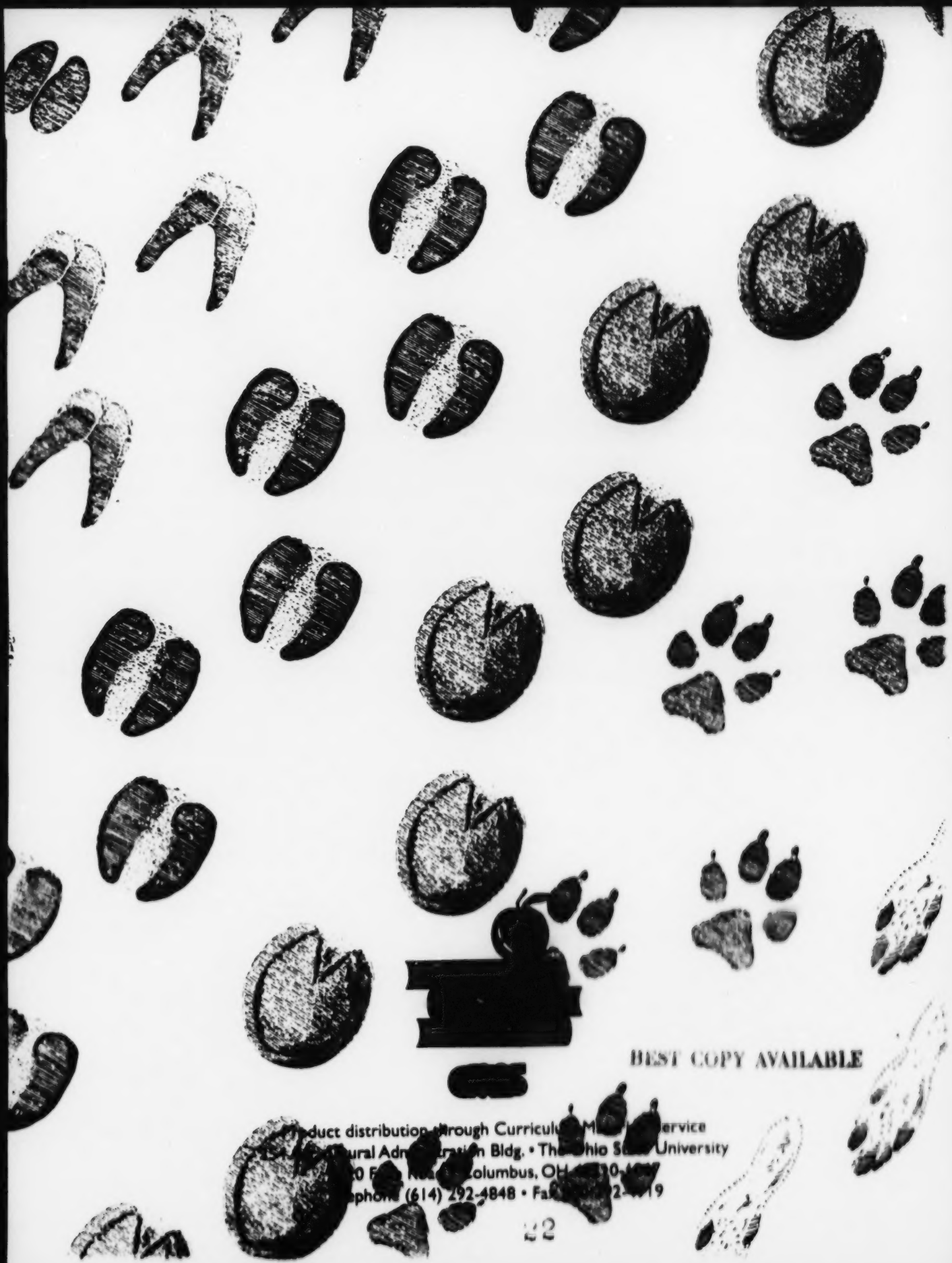

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